Federal Communications Commission 445 12th Street, S.W. Washington, D. C. 20554

News Media Information 202 / 418-0500 Internet: http://www.fcc.gov TTY: 1-888-835-5322

This is an unofficial announcement of Commission action. Release of the full text of a Commission order constitutes official action. See MCI v. FCC. 515 F 2d 385 (D.C. Circ 1974).

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: January 20, 2010

NEWS MEDIA CONTACTS: Angela Kronenberg or Rick Kaplan

Phone: (202) 418-2100

Email: angela.kronenberg@fcc.gov or

rick.kaplan@fcc.gov

FCC COMMISSIONER CLYBURN TO VISIT CHULA VISTA, CALIFORNIA, JANUARY 25 TO DISCUSS MOBILE PHONE SERVICES WITH CONSUMERS

Washington, D.C. – On Monday, January 25, Commissioner Mignon Clyburn of the Federal Communications Commission (FCC) will hold an open forum with consumers from 6-7:30 p.m. at the Chula Vista Library's Civic Center Branch, in Chula Vista, CA, to discuss their experiences with wireless service providers. The forum is designed to provide consumers with an opportunity to speak directly with federal officials about their thoughts on the state of the wireless market.

"I am looking forward to the opportunity to meet with the Chula Vista community and to hear about their experiences as mobile phone consumers," said Commissioner Clyburn. "The Commission has a duty to protect and empower consumers throughout the telecommunications marketplace, and in order to do that responsibly, it is essential that we hear directly from the public."

In August, the FCC began an inquiry into what additional steps it should take, if any, to ensure that American consumers have sufficient access to relevant information about communications services. A recent survey by the Government Accountability Office found that one-third of wireless phone customers who pay their own bills found unexpected charges or had problems understanding their bills. Some consumers have reported being confused by their mobile phone contracts or surprised that a fee is charged to cancel their service early. More than 270 million U.S. consumers have mobile phones and approximately 20% of U.S. consumers rely solely on their mobile phones and do not have traditional wired telephones in their homes.

Commissioner Clyburn recently expressed concern over the expansion of early termination fees by one provider and related reports of unexpected and unjustified charges appearing on consumers' bills from that provider. A copy of the Commissioner's statement can be found at http://hraunfoss.fcc.gov/edocs_public/attachmatch/DOC-295371A1.pdf.

For more information about the open forum, please contact Keyla Hernandez-Ulloa at (202) 418-0965 or keyla.hernandez-ulloa@fcc.gov.